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EXAMINER

RAPILLO, KRISTINE K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3626

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11/05/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/788,900	Applicant(s) COSENTINO ET AL.	
	Examiner KRISTINE K. RAPILLO	Art Unit 3626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 April 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 31-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 32 and 41 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 31, 33-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 October 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/14/2005; 11/21/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. This communication is in response to an amendment submitted April 22, 2009. Claims 1, 5, 7 – 8, 31, 33 – 34, and 37 – 40 are amended. Claims 32 and 41 are cancelled. Claims 1–10, 31, 33 – 40 are presented for examination. Note: Applicant amended withdrawn claims 11, 15, 17 – 18, 21 – 23, 25 – 30, 42, 44 – 45, 48 – 50, 53, 55 – 59, and 61 – 62. Applicant cancelled withdrawn claims 43, 54, and 63.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 7, 9 – 10, 31 – 32, 35 – 39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iliff (U.S. Patent Number 5,594,638) in view of Ohayon et al., herein after Ohayon (U.S. Patent Number 4,712,562) further in view of Brown (U.S. Publication Number 2003/0069753).

In regard to claim 1 (Currently Amended), Iliff teaches a system for determining whether a person should have health care professional attention and for providing clinical notes to a caregiver, the system comprising: a monitoring device having a microprocessor operably coupled to a memory unit (column 7, line 63), an input device (column 4, lines 39 – 49), an output device (column 4, lines 39 – 49), and a communication device (column 7, lines 49 – 62), the memory unit being programmed with a set of instructions for posing questions to the person via the output device (column 6, lines 34 – 44), and, receiving answers from the person via the input device (column 6, lines 34 – 37).

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Ohayon teaches a system comprising: the remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4; and column 4, lines 14 – 34) being programmed to determine whether the person should have health care professional attention based at least in part upon the answers (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

Brown teaches a system comprising transmitting the answers to a remote computer via the communication device (paragraph [0040] where the answers to queries are transmitted from a personal monitoring device to a computer via the web, thus the computer is remote from the device); and a remote computer programmed to: receive the answers from the monitoring device (paragraphs [0040] and [0041]); determine, for each of the questions, whether the answer to the question satisfies a condition associated with the question (Figures 5, 6A, 8, and 10); and automatically generate a clinical note (Figure 2; paragraphs [0044], [0105], and [0115]) containing textual phrases matched to ones of the answers that satisfy the conditions (paragraph [0044]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a system comprising transmitting the answers to a remote computer via the communication device where the answers to queries are transmitted from a personal monitoring device to a computer via the web, thus the computer is remote from the device); and a remote computer programmed to: receive the answers from the monitoring device; determine, for each of the questions, whether the answer to the question satisfies a condition associated with the question; and automatically generate a clinical note containing textual phrases matched to ones of the answers that satisfy the conditions, as taught by Brown, within the system of Iliff and Ohayon, with the motivation of accurately monitoring individuals using a networked system (paragraph [0040]) which would provide results to a health care provider. The health care provider can then advise the patient to seek immediate medical attention as taught by Iliff (column 35, lines 33 – 42).

In regard to claim 2 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system comprising: a datastore accessible by the remote computer (column 7, lines 60 – 62)

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and wherein the datastore stores clinical text associated with the questions posed to the person via the monitoring device (column 8, lines 27 – 28).

Ohayon teaches a system wherein the remote computer is programmed to generate the clinical note based at least in part upon the clinical text stored in the datastore (column 4, lines 14 – 34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a system comprising: a data store accessible by the remote computer (column 7, lines 60 – 62) and wherein the data store stores clinical text associated with the questions posed to the person via the monitoring device as taught by Ohayon, within the system of Iliff and Brown, with the motivation of enabling a health care provider the ability to electronically monitor and analyze a patient's health, as well as prescribe treatment (column 8, lines 19 – 24).

In regard to claim 3 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 2. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the datastore also stores a symptom identifier associated with each of the questions posed to the person via the monitoring device (column 7, line 63 through column 8, line 42), wherein the remote computer is programmed to select a grammatical rule for construction of the clinical note based upon the symptom identifier (column 8, lines 27 – 28). The Examiner interprets a grammatical rule to be a system which inserts canned or pre-programmed text into a report or summary so as to link symptoms identified by the patient.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a grammatical rule for construction of the clinical note based upon the symptom identifier as taught by Iliff with the motivation of providing a summary of the questions or symptom identifier step using appropriate medical terminology (column 28, lines 16 – 34).

In regard to claim 4 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the clinical note comprises verbiage presenting symptoms reported by the person via the input device (column 8, lines 27 – 28).

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In regard to claim 5 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to generate the clinical note based upon the measurement transmitted to the remote computer (column 28, lines 19 – 34).

Ohayon teaches a system to transmit the measurement to the remote computer (column 4, line 51 through column 5, line 10); and the remote computer is further programmed to generate a clinical note based upon the measurement transmitted to the remote computer (column 4, lines 14 – 34).

Brown teaches a system wherein: the monitoring device further comprises a biometric measuring unit operably coupled to the microprocessor (paragraph [0090]) and the memory unit in the monitoring device is further programmed with a set of instructions to cause the biometric measuring unit to take a measurement of the patient, and to transmit the measurement to the remote computer (paragraph [0090]).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 6 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to present a user interface that permits viewing of the clinical note and also permits viewing of a populace of persons identified as potentially needing attention by a health care professional (column 6, lines 38 – 44).

In regard to claim 7 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer communicates the clinical note to a health care professional (column 28, lines 27 - 29). Iliff fails to teach a remote computer, however, this feature is taught by Ohayon.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4 and column 4, lines 14 - 34).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

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In regard to claim 8 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 7.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4 and column 4, lines 14 - 34).

Brown teaches a system wherein the remote computer communicates the clinical note to the health care professional via e-mail (appendix: page 105).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a system wherein the communication occurs via e-mail as taught by Brown, within the system of Iliff, with the motivation of allowing a health care provider and patient the ability to communicate with one another (paragraph [0041]).

In regard to claim 9 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to present questions to be posed to the person using the monitoring device, the questions being used to verify the determination that the person should have health care professional attention (column 2, lines 41 – 48 and column 35, lines 33 – 42), however Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4 and column 4, lines 14 - 34).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 10 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 1. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to provide a user interface (column 6, lines 38 – 44) permitting selection of a disease state for monitoring by the monitoring device (column 50, lines 53 – 58), however, however Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4).

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The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 31 (Currently Amended), Iliff teaches a system for determining whether a person should have health care professional attention, the system comprising: a monitoring device having a microprocessor operably coupled to a memory unit (column 7, line 63), an input device (column 4, lines 39 – 49), an output device (column 4, lines 39 – 49), and a communication device (column 7, lines 49 – 62), the memory unit being programmed with a set of instructions for posing questions to the person via the output device (column 6, lines 34 – 44), and receiving answers from the person via the input device (column 6, lines 34 – 37), and automatically create an entry in an intervention data field for the person, the entry describing a treatment to counteract a symptom experienced by the person (column 55, lines 33 – 55 and column 65, lines 20 – 30).

Ohayon teaches a system comprising: the remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4; and, column 4, lines 14 – 34) being programmed to; determine whether the person should have health care professional attention based at least in part upon the answers (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 4; and, column 4, lines 14 – 34).

Brown teaches a system comprising: transmitting the answers to a remote computer via the communication device (paragraph [0040]); and receive the answers from the monitoring device (paragraphs [0040] and [0041]).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 33 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon and Brown teach the system of claim 31.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 though column 4, line 27 and column 4, lines 14 - 34).

Brown teaches a system wherein the entry data further includes the date upon which the remote computer system created the entry (appendix: Figure 2, page 23).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a system wherein the intervention data further includes the date upon which the intervention data was entered into the remote computer system as taught by Brown, within the system of Iliff and Ohayon, with the motivation of enabling a health care provider the ability to track any medical advice or treatments recommended, and to determine if the results are acceptable or a new course of treatment should be prescribed (paragraph [0038] and [0149]).

In regard to claim 34 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 33.

Brown further teaches a system wherein the entry data further includes an indication of whether or not the treatment has counteracted the symptom (appendix: Figure 6, page 27).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 35 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 31. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to present a user interface that permits viewing of a populace of persons identified as potentially needing attention by a health care professional (column 6, lines 38 - 44).

In regard to claim 36 (Original), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 31. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer system is further programmed to present an operator with a set of questions, so that the operator may pose the questions to the person using the monitoring device, in response to the person having been identified as potentially needing attention by a health care professional (column 35, lines 11 - 42); wherein the set of questions are designed to permit a conclusion to be drawn regarding a diagnosis of a symptom reported by the person using the device (column 40, lines 41 - 56); and wherein the set of questions are designed to permit a conclusion to be drawn regarding selection of an intervention appropriate for the diagnosis (column 40, lines 41 - 56 and column 41, lines 46 - 62). However, Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

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Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 37 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 36. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to arrive at a preliminary diagnosis and a preliminary intervention as a function of the person's answers to the questions posed by the operator (column 39, line 7 through column 42, line 9). However, Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 38 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 37. Iliff further teaches a system wherein the remote computer is further programmed to generate a clinical note based upon the preliminary diagnosis and the preliminary intervention (column 28, lines 19 – 34). However, Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

Brown teaches a clinical note containing textual phrases (paragraph [0044]).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 39 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 36. Iliff teaches a system wherein the remote computer chooses the set of questions based upon the answers transmitted to the remote computer by the monitoring device (column 39, line 7 through column 42, line 9). However, Iliff fails to teach a remote computer.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

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The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 2, and incorporated herein.

In regard to claim 40 (Currently Amended), Iliff, Ohayon, and Brown teach the system of claim 36.

Ohayon teaches a remote computer (Figure 1; column 3, line 56 through column 4, line 27).

Brown teaches a system wherein the monitoring device further comprises a biometric measuring unit operably coupled to the microprocessor (paragraph [0090]); the memory unit in the monitoring device is further programmed with a set of instructions to cause the biometric measuring unit to take a measurement of the patient, and to transmit the measurement to the remote computer (paragraph [0090]); and the remote computer is further programmed to choose the set of questions based upon the answers transmitted to the remote computer and the measurement taken by the biometric measurement unit (paragraph [0041]).

The motivation to combine the teachings of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown is discussed in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed April 22, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments will be addressed herein below in the order in which they appear in the response filed April 22, 2009.

In response to the Applicant's argument, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has applied new prior art and/or new passages and new citations to the amended claims. The Examiner notes that the amended limitations were not in the previously pending claims; as such, Applicant's remarks with the regard to the application of Iliff, Ohayon and Brown are addressed in the above Office Action.

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Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to whose telephone number is (571)270-3325. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 6:30 am to 4 pm Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Luke Gilligan can be reached on 571-272-6770. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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KKR

/C. Luke Gilligan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626